



# cross talk

NEWS BULLETIN OF TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Sponsored by Systems Employee Association



FEBRUARY 1983

FD '71  
WAS FD '73  
WAC FD '75  
FD '76

**Garrett/W6TRW 2-Meter Repeater: 145.32 Receive — 144.72 Transmit (2A-PL)**

**TRW UHF Repeater: 447.000 Receive — 442.000 Transmit**

## CALENDAR FOR JANUARY & FEBRUARY

Feb. 25, Noon	Club Meeting. Please note that this is the last FRIDAY.
Feb. 26, 8-11 am	Swapmeet
March 8, after work	Executive Board Meeting. All are welcome.
March 17, after work	St. Patrick's Day party.
March 26, 8-11 am	Swapmeet.
March 29, Noon	Club Meeting. Please note that this is the last TUESDAY.

**IMPORTANT:** Please note that club meeting schedules have been changed.

## SWAPMEET NEWS — Bill Schreck, KE6LB

The luck of the Irish smiled on us in January. The weather services predicted heavy rains, through to Saturday evening. Late Friday, a violent storm hit us, as predicted, and it was a forgone conclusion that we would be rained out. The winds were so strong that it messed up my wind speed and direction transducers. In four hours, I measured 1.3" of rain. What we, and the National Weather Service, didn't know was that this storm was very fast-moving; by 1 am, it passed through and the rains were over. The donuts were ordered at 3 am and the Swapmeet was a 'go.' At 5 am, I dialed up several of the major 2 meter repeaters and made the announcement that the weather in Redondo Beach was good and the Swapmeet was being held as usual. Our attendance was down from usual, but we still had several hundred buyers and sellers. It was a close call this time.

TRW members covering the Swapmeet were Roland Goulet (KE6LI) and Norm Stockwell (N6NS). Jim Hill and his associate member group handled the food and beverage booth nicely. Operators for February will be Dave Gilmore (WB6IDJ) and one "to be named."

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

If you haven't paid your dues, this is the last issue of Crosstalk you will receive. Corrections to the mailing list or any membership data should be sent to Bill Dews. However, the Crosstalk editor would also like to know about upgrades, new licenses, births, marriages, deaths (including those of gear), etc.

**WELCOME TO THE CLUB!** — W. L. Fisher (K6GZF), Gayle Nelson (WB6GCP), John Bennett (KA6YVJ), C. E. Anderson (K6DLO), and Lawrence Weeks.

**CLUB BADGES**—You get a free door prize ticket if you wear your TRW/ARC badge to club meetings. If you don't have one with your current call on it, drop Bill Dews a check for \$2.00, along with your name and call. Wear them at Swapmeets and picnics too. Badges have been received for Tom (KA6BKL), Bill (KE6LB), Tony (W6IRG), Drew (KA6BFJ), Paul (N6HXY), Dale (K6ZTI), and Paul (K6YQ).

**LICENSE EXPIRATIONS** — W6FQ and W6MSX in March; K6DLO in April.

## **SHAKE, RATTLE, AND ROLL — Paul Herbert, N6HXY**

While "reading the mail" on 2 meters on my new Yaesu HT late one evening, a sharp jolt rattled the house. One of the hams said, "Did you feel that earthquake? I'm going to 145.46 to see what's happening." When I switched to W6FXN, the control operator, Richard La Belle, was already taking reports from various amateurs, describing how they felt the quake. After 10-15 minutes, Dick was able to conclude that the location was in the eastern Pomona Valley. In response to questions, he went on to explain that some of his unconventional earthquake instruments were wired into the repeater to give warning tones during and/or before an earthquake. The signals will override anyone using the open repeater on Buzzard Peak, near Covina. The signals consist of a high pitched tone and a low pitched tone, either alone or together. Reading these tones gives the following information:

1. High tone alone, intermittent: Local event in progress, about Richter magnitude 3.
2. Low tone alone, intermittent: Quake at an intermediate distance, greater than magnitude 4.5, imparting a local shock at Covina of about magnitude 3.
3. High and low tone together, intermittent: A quake large enough to impart shocks locally in Covina greater than magnitude 3.
4. Low tone alone, steady, one minute on, one minute off, or any portions thereof: Indicates a pressure build-up preceding a major event, for minutes, hours, or days before the event. (The tone may cease just before the event, as the pressure rises off scale, if the event is to be at a distance.)

Dick's machine gave off a low-tone warning for 40 minutes before Mount St. Helens blew its top. The instruments provided warnings for three days before the 1971 Sylmar quake. Dick kept resetting his instruments, which repeatedly moved off scale. When he awoke that morning, it was so far off scale the he woke his family and they followed their pre-planned earthquake evacuation procedure. Just after they left the house and were walking past the pool, the quake hit and water sloshing out of the pool soaked them!

Dick has combined his boyhood interest in amateur radio and earthquakes into the unique warning/reporting system. Several years ago, when four severe quakes in Greece caused great damage and loss of life, Dick and another control operator, Jim (N6ABL), noticed that the same pattern was being repeated the third time, indicating that a third quake was about to occur. They phoned the national earthquake monitoring station in Colorado and asked whether a third quake had struck. The seismologist responded, "how did you know? The quake just happened, and the shock wave won't reach us for twenty minutes."

Dick's instrument also gave warning of the 5.2 and 5.8 quakes at Mammoth in late December, as well as the 4.2 quake which jolted my QTH in Yorba Linda at 11:19 pm on January 6, 1983. Dick is reluctant to give a detailed description of his instrument, because he is in the process of filing for a patent. It is clear that it is somehow related to the earth's crustal pressure, rather than seismic shock waves. Dick has not published a paper on his system yet, but occasionally finds time to talk to local amateur clubs.

W6FXN's system is one more example of an amateur radio operator advancing the state of the art in combining the products of two hobbies in a unique way which may contribute to the safety of many people. Dick's guess (?) about where the next "biggie" will hit is the Tehachapi Mountains, but will not confirm an exact location or approximate time (i.e., within 56 hours) until his instruments provide measurable data.

Needless to say, since January 6th, I monitor 145.46 and keep my HT on my nightstand, locked to that frequency.

## **ANTENNA PARTY — Bill Schrecengost, KE6LB**

Saturday morning, 22 January, several TRW/ARC members arrived at my QTH to help take my TH6DXX beam down from my tower and install my new HQ-1 miniquad. The weather was drizzly during the take-down, and we all got rather damp. The roof was slippery, and Vic (KA6NDN) took an unplanned sitdown on the wet shakes. The miniquad installation had to be put off because the U-bolts were too small to fit the tower mast. It was, however, installed Sunday, and is working OK. Many thanks to Ken Edwards (KE6NA), Bill Rodner (K6AWS), John Koenig (W6KRU), Bill Dews (K6AWO), and Paul Herbert (N6HHXY).

## MEETING MINUTES — Walt Pearson, N6DZM

### General Meeting, 28 January 1983

Twenty-three personal attended. Gary Komatsu announced the new officers for 1983 and turned the gavel over to Bill Rodner, the new President. Bill stated that most of the staff will stay the same as last year. He has some ideas for new programs, such as recognition of novel projects and club support incentives.

A new Swapmeet Chairman is urgently needed. Bill Schrecengost submitted duty task statements for Swapmeet Manager and Traffic Controller, which are needed each month. Assignments for the 29 January Swapmeet were confirmed and future assignments were discussed. The associate member group is doing a good job running the refreshment stand.

Gary Komatsu, Activities, stated that the TRW/ARC will have the same spot in Palos Verdes for Field Day in June. Coverage is needed for 15-meter SSB and especially for 20-meter CW.

Dave Gilmore, ECG, reported on the M5/R6 exercise. Eleven members provided excellent communications coverage of all exits. The TRW Emergency Coordinator, Emergency Assistance Team, and Manhattan Beach Fire Chief were all very pleased with the TRW/ARC performance. The activity was also monitored by the Rockwell ARC on the 450 link.

Bill Dews, Membership, reported that 84 members have paid for 1983. All other memberships lapsed at the end of January. Bill also had new badges for seven members.

The 1982 Callbook is still missing. Does anyone have it or know where it is?

Jim Richardson gave a short talk on a simple tester circuit with applications.

The door prizes were a 2-meter auto antenna, electrical tester, and a raincoat.

### Executive Board Meeting, 11 January 1983

Attending were Bill Daley, Bill Dews, Fred Garrett, Connie and Dave Gilmore, Bob Hume, Bill Ivey, Gary Komatsu, Walt Pearson, and Bill Rodner.

Vice President Fred Garrett has invited Mike Aust to talk about the 450 repeater at the next General Meeting, on Friday, 25 February. General Meetings will move to Tuesdays from March through September.

Gary Komatsu, Activities, stated that Bill Schrecengost will cover 15-meter SSB and Don Nardone will cover 20-meter CW on Field Day. Kitchen people are need for the event.

A motion was made and passed to appropriate \$50 from the Swapmeet fund to defray costs of the St. Patrick's Day bash at Shakey's on Torrance Blvd, after work on March 17th.

Bob Hume, Trustee, stated that an antenna party was needed to replace cables and perform maintenance on existing antennas. Bob and Fred Garrett will survey the requirements prior to the party. Erection of a new low-band antenna and various ideas for usage were discussed. The merits and problems of a telephone in the shack were considered. The 2-meter repeater antenna directors were repositioned, with one each north and south and two east.

Bill Daley, LAACARC Delegate, checked with the Council Secretary, who could not confirm information received concerning a requirement to use amateur radio operators as emergency communicators in large companies. Bill also talked with Fried Heyn and Robert Dyer of ARES, who described efforts to upgrade the system in the area.

Dave Gilmore, ECG, reiterated the highly successful exit of 2,200 people from M5/R6 during the drill in January. He discussed criteria for issuance of future passes for carrying 2-meter HTs into TRW buildings.

Bill Dews, Membership, reported that there are 96 current members, of whom 40 (57%) regular members belong to the ARRL and 30 do not. The other 26 are retirees, associates, or family members. Connie and Dave Gilmore and Fred Garrett will contact last year's members who have not renewed. Bill also has sent an application to the 10-10 contest net for W6TRW.

Bill Ivey, SEA Rep, described SEA's new policy of meeting requirements and report formats that must be complied with to assure SEA support to the TRW/ARC. Fred Garrett will help Bill fulfill these items.

Fred Garrett took an action item to audit the handling of Swapmeet refreshment stand money.

Design of a new club QSL card was discussed.

## **EDITOR'S CORNER — Phyllis Gilmore, KE6TC**

Starting with next month's issue, I'm planning to put Crosstalk out a week early. This means that the deadline is now 48 hours after the executive board meeting, each month.

Bill Gradwhol (N6GCU) has upgraded to General — Congratulations, Bill!

I've heard a substantial rumor, from two sources, that Don Wallace, W6AM, is going to be holding open house at his famous antenna farm on June 12th. Mark your calendars!

I've also heard that Rio Hondo's 1983 repeater directory is available at radio stores now. It's free, but you may have to ask for it at Henry's.

The March issue of QST is supposed to include the NPRM on the "No Code" license. You might want to check this one out, and comment on it. There also may be something on volunteer testing, another hot issue.

The exam schedule at Long Beach is now the first and third Wednesdays, 8 to 12 am for code, 8 to 2 pm for no code. It behooves you to be there at 8, if you're upgrading, because they begin with Extra-class code.

The FCC actually has issued that WSEX callsign. Must have been embarrassing.

You can still get personalized club QSL cards at the Hawthorne Typesetting Co., 4736 West El Segundo Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250. Phone: (213) 679-8677. \$22.00 for 100, plus \$4.00 for each additional 100 cards. Five or more orders (with different calls etc.) are \$18 per 100 (with the \$4.00 each extra hundred of the same card). Allow one week for delivery.

## **COMPUTERS IN AMATEUR RADIO — Ray Jordan**

For those who might like to merge computers and amateur radio, I present this information.

The FCC has, in the last few years, recognized computers. their first step was to allow the use of ASCII codes in amateur radio and the latest step is to consider a "no code" class for computer users. This new no-code class, if allowed, may omit Morse code but still require a technical test concerning radio theory and radio station operating procedures. The radio amateurs now have full use of computers on the air, but computer people need an FCC license to get on the air.

In this age of specialization, most computer people know little about amateur radio, and most radio amateurs know little about computers. Bill Dews of TRW/ARC hopes to correct this problem. He is starting a list of computer people who can help radio amateurs concerning computers. Such an exchange of information can be a two-way street. The computer people can help the radio amateurs and the radio amateurs can help the computer people.

If you would like to get on Bill's list, write him at M2-2155 or call on x53392. If you could help evaluate computer hardware or software for amateur radio applications, or if you have something on the air, please contact me at 102-1100, x64294. (Ed. Note.--this article is also to appear in publications of TRW's computer clubs.)

## **PAID UP MEMBERS**

Having your name and/or callsign on the following page is a good indication that you've paid up -- if it isn't there, chuck a check to Bill Dues soon! By the way, errors are probably typos, unless it's the license class. I haven't fully updated the roster, which will be published next month.

# TRW/ARC MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

WB6TWY	ADV	Roy Adams	WB6TDE	GEN	Carl Kennedy
K6DLO		C. E. Anderson			Sue Kennedy
WB6DJI	ADV	Michael Aust	WA6FLL	TECH	Al Key
K5MJU	GEN	Bob Bains	WA6KQU	ADV	John Koenig
WA6KPC	ADV	Jack Baughman			Jack Koho
KA6YVJ	NOV	John Bennett	K6HPD	GEN	Gary Komatsu
KA6BKL	GEN	Tom Benson	KD6SI	ADV	Michael Kosty
W6WJE	GEN	Bert Bergstrom	W6IMQ	ADV	John Larson
		Bob Block	W6KQI	XTRA	Al Lee
N6HJP	GEN	Jim Buskirk	W6RDH	ADV	Bill Lee
KF6CV	ADV	Steve Buskirk	W6IOW	ADV	George Lee
WB6DVH	TECH	Dave Burdett	K6MXF	ADV	Hans Mahr
WA6RAY	ADV	Frank Cartier	WB9ZDS	GEN	Charles Marlett
WB6RLN	TECH	Gary Cooper	N6WK	XTRA	Bill McClellan
K6RF	XTRA	Ted Cullian	K6RL	XTRA	Mac McGrew
K6BO	ADV	Bill Daley	KA5OKR	TECH	Mike McGuire
WA6DRV	GEN	Joe Dalrymple	W6ZWS	ADV	R. M. McKechnie
WA6GVO	GEN	Jerry Dean	W6RTG	XTRA	Jim McWilliams
K6AWO	XTRA	Bill Dews	WA6TNX	ADV	George Mitsuhata
K6GWC	ADV	Mel Erb	WA6DLA	GEN	Dale Mooney
W6ZVM	ADV	Ed Fine	W6SCL	ADV	Frank Mullen
		Howard Fisher	K6UG	XTRA	Don Nardone
K6GZF	ADV	W. L. Fisher	WB6GCP		Gayle Nelson
W6CZL	ADV	Mas Fujimoto	WA6YSK		Paul Newport
WA6VJQ	TECH	Earl Garland	W6OJN	ADV	David Olsson
N6CRW	ADV	Fred Garrett	N6DZM	TECH	Walt Pearson
W6ATC	ADV	Harry Gartsman	W6UMC	ADV	Fred Reed
WA6SKM	TECH	Connie Gilmore			Dan Richardson
WB6IDJ	TECH	Dave Gilmore	K6PDR	GEN	Jim Richardson
KE6TC	ADV	Phyllis Gilmore	K6AWS	ADV	Bill Rodner
W6FQ	XTRA	Herb Gleed	KA6SIS	TECH	Renato Salcedo
N6GBX	TECH	Bob Gorman	K6IGU	ADV	Darwin Salisbury
KE6LI	ADV	Rolland Goulet	N6CIZ	TECH	Richard Sauer
N6GCU	GEN	William Gradwohl	W6MSX	ADV	Ralph Schilling
KD6AU	XTRA	Lin Hamilton	KE6LB	ADV	Bill Schrecengost
WA5DJJ	ADV	Dave Hassall	DE6PI	ADV	Mac Scott
W6VBB	XTRA	Nelson Hayes	K6OMD	GEN	Lorne Sherley
KB6FN	ADV	Rich Hefley	WA6RUZ	TECH	Charley Speelman
W6IRG	GEN	Tony Helbling, Jr.	KF6CV	ADV	M. Stephen
N6HXY	GEN	Paul Herbert	WA6ATK	GEN	Dave Stockwell
W6IVW	ADV	Jim Hill	N6FLH	TECH	Helen Stockwell
N6HHZ	TECH	Tom Hone	N6NS	XTRA	Norm Stockwell
KG6B	XTRA	Bob Hume	KA6LXP	NOV	Susan Stockwell
W6RZD	ADV	Forrest Hurt	N6FVK	TECH	Walt Stockwell
N6GEA	TECH	Jim Ickes	W6IPM	XTRA	Bill Tallon
WA6QET	GEN	Bill Ivey	W6RXD	ADV	Ed Thornley
K6ZTI	TECH	Dale Jensen	WA6WZD	ADV	J. Thorp
W6EKK	ADV	Stan Johnson	WA6OTH	ADV	Al Valentine
N6EXQ	TECH	Bruce Johnson	KA6NES	ADV	Kent Vandenberg
		Ray Jordan	KA6IML	ADV	Gary Vennie
K6PUK	GEN	Bob Kaemmerer			Lawrence Weeks
			K6YQ	XTRA	Paul Weisz
			WB2DRH	XTRA	Joseph Zboril